(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) The Education Code of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan provides that "the Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan is empowered to make relaxation in most deserving cases and grant special permission for admission irrespective of the category to which the children belong". However, such admissions cause dissatisfaction among the eligible categories who perceive such admissions taking away a portion of their share of facility. Such admissions in many cases also lead to large classes leading to adverse consequence on the quality of instruction in the class. It is, therefore, intended to stop the practice of admission by special dispensation.

Kerala High Court judgement for investigation into affairs of Cochin Shipyard Ltd.

1785. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kerala High Court had directed Government vide their judgement O.P. No. 8032 of 1986-F to institute a thorough investigation into the affairs of the Cochin Shipyard Ltd.;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) Following certain reports in the local press in October 1986, relating to excessive indenting/procurement of pipes for the building of bulk carriers by CSL and the possibility of pilferage of some pipes, the then C&MD appointed a Committee headed by GM (Finance) to investigate into the various transactions concerning the procurement of pipes and to examine whether or not there had been lapses, acts or omission, causing loss to the Company. Pending the receipt of the enquiry report, one of the officers, who, being the officer in charge of the Design Department, during the relevant period, and was responsible for indenting the items, was placed under suspension by the Shipyard Management.

The concerned officer filed a writ petition in the Kerala High Court against his suspension. As per the judgement, although this officer was not exonerated of the charge of over-indenting of pipes, the judge found no justification in keeping him under suspension. In the circumstances, the Hon'ble Judge quashed the order of suspension of the concerned officer. The Court however, observed that a thorough investigation into the working of the Company, since its inception, seems to be necessary. Since a Departmental enquiry Committee, which had been set up, has already submitted the first part of its report and the second part is awaited, the scope of further enquiry into the working of the Company will be considered keeping in view the findings of the Departmental enquiry Committee.

Licences for acquisition of ships

1786. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that new licensing Committee has been constituted to issue licences for acquisition of ships by shipping companies; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The composition of the new Licensing Commitee is as under:—

1. Secretary, Ministry of Surface Transport	—Chairman
2. D.G. Shipping, Bombay	—Member
3. Representative of SCICI	—Member
4. F.A. (Surface Transport)	— Member
5. Joint Secretary (Shipping) Ministry of Surface Transport	—Member
6. Representative of Ministry of Finance	—Member
7. Representative of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	— Member
8. Representative of Department of Company Affairs	—Member
9. Director (Shipping) Ministry of Surface Transport)	—Member —Secretary

The Licensing Committee will grant in principle approval to applications for acquisition of ships on the basis of a broad national plan. Such an approval would be valid for a period of 6 months subject to further extension on merits. The financing arrangements for the proposed acquisition would be finalised separately by the company by approaching SCICI/Banks.

The Committee will frame its own rules, regulations and procedures for its functioning including the fixed interval at which the Committee would meet.

Sub-standard medical colleges

1787. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 863 given on 4th March, 1987 and state:

(a) what is the total number of Medical Colleges providing Medical eductaion in the country and the number of sub-standard medical colleges established without the approval of the Medical Council of India; and

(b) what steps have since been taken to amend the IMC Act, 1956 to effectively prevent establishment and working of such unapproved medical college?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) There are 106 medical colleges providing minimum standard facilities for medical education in the country. In the recent past, 19 medical colleges have been established without prior permission of the Medical Council of India. The Council have carried out inspection of 9 out of these 19 medical colleges and found that the facilities provided in these colleges are not in conformity with the standards laid down by the Council.

(b) Steps have already been initiated to amend the IMC Act to effectively prevent establishment and working of such unapproved medical colleges.

Winding up of shipping companies due to recession

1788. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of SURFACE